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IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1 - 14 (Previously canceled).

Cancel claims 15 - 51.

Claims 52 - 58 (Previously canceled).

59. (New): A process for the non-fermentative production of 2-keto-D-gluconate (KDG) comprising,

- a) obtaining cells from an *Enterobacteriaceae* strain, said cells comprising (i) a mutation in a nucleic acid encoding an endogenous KDG dehydrogenase, wherein said mutation results in the inactivation of the endogenous KDG dehydrogenase and (ii) a mutation in an endogenous membrane bound glucose dehydrogenase (GDH);
- b) providing a bioreactor with said cells, glucose and GDH from a source other than the endogenous membrane bound GDH; and
- c) allowing enzymatic oxidation of the glucose by the GDH from step b) to yield gluconate and enzymatic oxidation of the gluconate to yield KDG.

60. (New): The process of claim 59, wherein the *Enterobacteriaceae* cells are selected from the group consisting of the genera of *Pantoea*, *Erwinia*, *Enterobacter* and *Gluconobacter*.

61. (New): The process of claim 60, wherein the *Enterobacteriaceae* cells are *Pantoea* cells.

62. (New): The process of claim 61, wherein the *Pantoea* cells are *P. citrea* cells.

63. (New): The process of claim 59, wherein the *Enterobacteriaceae* cells are recombinant cells.

64. (New): The process of claim 59, wherein the *Enterobacteriaceae* cells are non-viable.

65. (New): The process of claim 59, wherein the *Enterobacteriaceae* cells are viable.

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66. (New): The process of claim 59 further comprising recovering the KDG from the bioreactor.
67. (New): The process of claim 66 further comprising converting the KDG to erythorbate.
68. (New): The process of claim 59, wherein the GDH from a source other than the endogenous membrane bound GDH is provided in solution.
69. (New): The process of claim 59, wherein the *Enterobacteriaceae* cells are transformed with a heterologous nucleic acid encoding a GDH.
70. (New): The process of claim 59, wherein the GDH from a source other than the endogenous membrane bound GDH is obtained from a *Thermoplasma acidophilum*, a *Cryptococcus uniguttalatus* or a *Bacillus* species.
71. (New): The process of claim 59, wherein said process is a batch process.
72. (New): The process of claim 59, wherein said process is a continuous process.
73. (New): A process for the non-fermentative production of 2-keto-D-gluconate (KDG) comprising,
- a) obtaining cells from an *Enterobacteriaceae* strain, wherein said cells are selected from the group consisting of the genera of *Pantoea*, *Erwinia*, *Enterobacter* and *Gluconobacter* and said cells comprising a mutation in a nucleic acid encoding an endogenous KDG dehydrogenase said mutation resulting in the inactivation of the endogenous KDG dehydrogenase,
 - b) providing a bioreactor with (i) said cells, (ii) glucose, and (iii) glucose dehydrogenase (GDH), and
 - c) allowing enzymatic oxidation of the glucose by the GDH to yield gluconate and enzymatic oxidation of the gluconate to yield KDG.
74. (New): The process of claim 73, wherein the cells are *Pantoea* cells.
75. (New): The process of claim 74, wherein the *Pantoea* cells are *P. citrea* cells.

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76. (New): The process of claim 73, wherein the cells are recombinant cells.

77. (New): The process of claim 73, wherein the cells are non-viable.

78. (New): The process of claim 73, wherein the cells are viable.

79. (New): The process of claim 73 further comprising recovering the KDG from the bioreactor.

80. (New): The process of claim 73, further comprising converting the KDG to erythorbate.

82. (New): The process of claim 73, wherein said process is a batch process.

83. (New): The process of claim 73, wherein said process is a continuous process.